

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Gregory Scott
Joel Jacobs
Marshall Johnson
Edward Garvey
LeRoy Koppendrayer

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

In the Matter of **Paul Bunyan Rural
Telephone Cooperative's** Request for
Approval of Certified Actual Costs Associated
with the **Hubbard County** 911 Emergency
Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: March 6, 2001

DOCKET NO. **P423/ES-01-270**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911
SYSTEM COSTS

BACKGROUND

On November 18, 1980, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Hubbard County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone Services System.

On January 11, 1983, the Commission approved the initial costs Northwestern Bell Company incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Hubbard County.

On May 24, 1983, the Commission approved the Northwestern Bell Company's revised costs associated with the initial certification approved on January 11, 1983. This certification reflected the elimination of those costs which were inappropriately included in its earlier cost calculations.

On January 9, 1985, the Commission approved the actual costs Northwestern Bell Company incurred for adding interexchange circuits for the La Parte and Becida exchanges in the Hubbard County 911 Emergency Telephone System.

On March 5, 1986, the Commission approved the actual costs incurred by Northwestern Bell Telephone company for adding interexchange circuits for the Nevis/Akeley exchange in the Hubbard County 911 Emergency Telephone System.

On January 14, 1987, the Commission approved the actual costs incurred by East Otter Tail Telephone Company for adding central office equipment for a portion of the 911 Emergency Services system in Hubbard County.

On March 8, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs incurred by Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone company incurred for adding central office equipment for a portion of the 911

Emergency Services system in Hubbard County.

On June 28, 2000, the Commission approved actual costs incurred by U S West Communications for adding interexchange circuits for Automatic Number Identification (ANI) in the 911 Emergency Services system in Hubbard County.

On September 25, 2000, the Commission approved actual costs incurred by Independent Emergency Services, LLC for installing trunk ports and Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) ports between the Turtle River Router to the Park Rapids Exchanges to enhance the 911 Emergency Services with the installation of ANI

CURRENT FILING

Hubbard County has contracted with Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Cooperative (the Cooperative) to provide router service as part of the installation of a portion ANI service in their 911 Emergency Services system.

On March 28, 2000, the Cooperative installed two, each, outswitch trunks and interexchange circuits from the Turtle River Selective Router to the Becida and Laporte Exchanges. The Cooperative also installed three interexchange circuits from the Turtle River to the Park Rapids PSAP and two, each, interexchange circuits between the Turtle River Router and the Park Rapids, Nevis, and Itasca State Park Exchanges for enhanced ANI service.

On January 25, 2001, the Cooperative certified actual costs incurred in providing interexchange circuits to the Turtle River Router for ANI service to some of the exchanges in the 911 Emergency Services system in Hubbard County.

The Cooperative is now requesting Commission approval of the actual costs of providing ANI services to these exchanges. Commission approval is necessary before the Department of Administration (DOA) will make payments for 911 system costs.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11, subd. 3 states:

Subd. 3 (METHOD OF PAYMENT; CERTIFICATION.) A public utility incurring reimbursable costs under subdivision 1 or 2 shall certify those costs to the commissioner of administration. The certification shall be in a form as prescribed by the commissioner after consultation with the public utilities commission. If the commissioner and the commission approve the certified costs as appropriate and accurate, the commissioner shall pay the certified costs from money appropriated for that purpose within 90 days following receipt by the commissioner of the certified costs. The commissioner of

administration shall estimate the amount required to reimburse public utilities for the state's obligations under subdivisions 1 and 2 of this section and the governor shall

include the estimated amount in the biennial budget request.

Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Cooperative has certified, in writing, that the elements of 911 services and associated costs indicated on Attachment A, reflect only charges for services actually rendered in the direct provision of 911 service in Hubbard County.

All charges listed on Attachment A are in accordance with the Company's tariffs.

The Commission finds that the costs for 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Hubbard County which have been certified by the Company are appropriate and accurate.

Policy References:

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11 System Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1400 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Recurring Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1500 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Central Office Modification Costs

ORDER

1. The costs identified on Attachment A accompanying this Order are approved as appropriate and accurate pursuant to the Commission's March 21, 2000 Standing Order Designating Filings Requesting Certification of 911 Costs As Filings Subject to Approval Under Minn. Stat. § 216A.03, Subd. 7, Docket No. P-999/CI-99-1723.
2. This Order does not approve payment of any 911 system costs. Any possible future approval of payment for system costs shall be granted by the Commissioner of the Department of Administration in accordance with the provisions of Minn. Stat. Section 403.11.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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STATE OF MINNESOTA)
)SS
COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I _____, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That on the ____ day of _____, 2001 (s)he served the attached **Order Approving Certified 911 System Costs for Hubbard County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P423/ES-01-270.**

XX By depositing in the United States Mail at the City of St. Paul, a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage prepaid

XX By personal service

XX By inter-office mail

to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list:

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Subscribed and sworn to before me,

a notary public, this _____ day of

_____, 2001.

Notary Public